



News Release

Northwest Minnesota Wind Energy Development Workshop Set for Aug. 3, 2006

By Linda Kingery on Thursday, July 20, 2006CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA (July 20, 2006) – Are you interested in developing a wind project? Are you unsure about where to start, or do you want a few more specifics about what it takes to pull the project together? The Northwest Wind Energy Development Workshop will help you plot out the steps to develop a wind project, connect you with sound resources, and get you going in the right direction.

The Northwest Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT), one of six citizen-based teams from around the state, will host the Northwest Minnesota Wind Energy Development Workshop on Thurs., Aug. 3, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The workshop will cover key wind development topics including: wind farm development basics, working with your local utility, wind resource analysis, turbine site location and zoning considerations, developing a pro forma, financing wind farms, and how wind projects impact community economics. The event will be held in the University of Minnesota, Crookston, Bede Ballroom (Student Center). The cost is \$10 with RSVPs required for lunch.

The Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs), initiated in 2003, are a collaborative effort of the University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Minnesota Project, the Southwest Regional Development Commission, and community members from across the state. The teams continue to assist Minnesotans with laying out project priorities that capitalize on their region's local resources and then turning these priorities into on-the-ground projects. Through these projects CERT members hope to stimulate the rural Minnesota economy using local resources and innovative 21st Century technologies to generate energy, keep our energy dollars at home, and create new local jobs.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, as recommended by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) and the Blandin Foundation, provide primary funding for this project. To RSVP for the Northwest Minnesota Wind Energy Development Workshop, contact Linda Kingery, executive director of the University of Minnesota Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership at 877-854-7737 or kinge002@umn.edu. Visit the Web for more information on CERT www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org

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